Teenagers in The Times: February 2019

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Highlight: Our roundup of the news stories and features about young people that have recently appeared across sections of NYTimes.com.

Body

Below, the February 2019 edition of Teenagers in The Times. This roundup of the news and feature stories about young people that have recently appeared across sections of NYTimes.com appears on the first Thursday of each month during the school year.

For ideas about how to use Teenagers in The Times with your students, please see our lesson plan and special activity sheet, both of which can be used with this or any other edition.

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Education

Schools in England Introduce a New Subject: Mindfulness

As mental health problems among children increase, the government will try having students practice mindfulness, relaxation and breathing exercises.

Why Girls Beat Boys at School and Lose to Them at the Office

Hard work and discipline help girls outperform boys in class, but that advantage disappears in the work force. Is school the problem?

A New Model to Stop the Next School Shooting

“I’m a psychiatrist, but I’m also a parent. Where do my loyalties lie?,” asks this Opinion essay writer.

Parkland Shooting: Where Gun Control and School Safety Stand Today

The Parkland students became a force for gun control legislation and boosted the youth vote. Here’s how they changed America’s response to mass shootings.

Parkland: A Year After the School Shooting That Was Supposed to Change Everything

Those at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School knew their lives would be transformed by the massacre. Many had no idea of the many ways that would happen.

Parkland’s Day of Remembrance: Moments of Silence, Reflection and Grief

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On a day nobody wanted to remember — or forget — Parkland students were observing a day of mourning for the 17 lives lost a year ago.

Building Bots and Confidence

With Deilab, students get hands-on lessons in science, technology, engineering, art and math, and they learn about resilience.

Women Sue Yale Over a Fraternity Culture They Say Enables Harassment

In a class-action lawsuit, three women claim Yale has fostered an environment where alcohol-fueled gatherings at fraternity houses dictate the undergraduate social scene.

Racist? Fair? Biased? Asian-American Alumni Debate Elite High School Admissions

When it comes to integration at New York City's most competitive high schools, Asian-American alumni have many different reactions.

I'm Not Here to Answer Your Black History Month Questions

The burden of explaining black history often falls on black students. That's not fair.

How Much Wealthier Are White School Districts Than Nonwhite Ones? $23 Billion, Report Says

The report took aim at school district borders, which it said wall off wealthier communities and, crucially, the money their property taxes raise.

Going to College Should Not Be a Financial Albatross

"Our country has most of the best colleges in the world. Students should be able to afford them, and borrowers should not be crushed by debts," states this Opinion essay.

Colleges Expand Their Reach to Address Mental Health Issues

As they struggle to keep up with the demand, many schools are hiring more staff members and trying new approaches.

One Way to Make College Meaningful

"Don't find yourself; find a vocation," says this writer.

The Two Codes Your Kids Need to Know

The College Board came up with a surprising conclusion about keys to success for college and life.

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Civics, Politics, Economics and Business

'I Am Now Your Mom': On Twitter, a Pledge of Support for L.G.B.T. Youths

A California woman reached out to L.G.B.T. youths on Twitter, volunteering to be their mom, and an entire tribe of strangers showed up for family duty.

Students Skip School Across Europe to Demand Climate Action

In cities including Berlin, London and Paris, young protesters took to the streets to urge their leaders to combat climate change.

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Becoming Greta: ‘Invisible Girl’ to Global Climate Activist, With Bumps Along the Way

A Swedish girl’s solitary act of civil disobedience has turned her into a symbol for climate action. But her path hasn’t been easy.

Sierra Leone Declares National Emergency Over Rape of Young Girls

President Julius Maada Bio said a majority of the victims were under 15, and announced measures to combat sexual violence.

Family of Shamima Begum, ISIS Teenager, Says Britain Plans to Revoke Her Citizenship

Ms. Begum’s family said it was “very disappointed with the Home Office’s intention to have an order made depriving Shamima of her citizenship.”

Shamima Begum, British Woman Who Joined ISIS in Syria, Wants to Come Home

Ms. Begum, 19, who says she is nine months pregnant, faces an uncertain future, with no clear answers about whether Britain would try to prosecute her.

A Locked Door, a Fire and 41 Girls Killed as Police Stood By

Guatemalan officers stood by for nine minutes as the fire raged at a government-run home. It was the culmination of a long history of abuse.

14 Children Died in the Parkland Shooting. Nearly 1,200 Have Died From Guns Since.

For the project “Since Parkland,” teenage journalists wrote profiles for every child killed by gun violence in the year since the Florida school shooting.

A ‘Dreamer’ Goes to Washington

Thursday: We talked to an undocumented Cal State Fullerton student about her trip to the State of the Union.

‘It Has Stuck With Me 35 Years’: 11 Childhood Memories of Blackface and Other Racist Incidents

Readers reveal racist behavior they committed or witnessed as children and reflect on how it affects them today.

Virginia’s First Lady Apologizes for Handing Cotton to Black Students on Tour

Pam Northam handed raw cotton to children touring the governor’s mansion and asked them to imagine being enslaved and having to pick the crop.

Beyond College Campuses and Public Scandals, a Racist Tradition Lingers

Blackface, with its roots in demeaning minstrel-show traditions, has persisted in fraternity houses and private clubs, occasionally exploding into public view.

Covington Students ‘Did Not Instigate’ Lincoln Memorial Encounter, Bishop Says

A report from a detective agency offered a detailed account of what happened between students from a Catholic high school and a Native American man.

Why Does Obama Scold Black Boys?

“The former president still can’t see the beautiful and complex range of black culture,” according to this Opinion essay writer.

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Thousands of Immigrant Children Said They Were Sexually Abused in U.S. Detention Centers, Report Says

There were 4,556 allegations in four years, including a rise in complaints during the Trump administration's family separation policy.

High School Students Are Blanketing My Block in Litter

Getting teenagers to clean up after themselves isn't easy. You might just have to talk to them.

Science, Health, Technology and Sports

France, Reaching Out to Youth, Takes Its Great Debate to Twitch

Ten top government officials joined live discussions on Twitch, a platform best known for showing people playing video games.

Instagram Bans Graphic Images of Self-Harm After Teenager's Suicide

Instagram and its parent company, Facebook, will no longer allow images of cutting and will make nongraphic photos of self-harm, such as healed scars, more difficult to find.

Teenagers Say Depression and Anxiety Are Major Issues Among Their Peers

A Pew Research Center survey found that teenagers across all demographic groups grapple with mental health issues.

Screen Use at Bedtime May Impair Children's Quality of Life

Using screens in a dark room was associated with worse sleep outcomes than using them with the lights on.

Why Are We Still Dismissing Girls' Pain?

This Opinion essay states, "People continue to struggle with the idea that women are the authorities on their own bodies."

E-Cigarettes and Youths

New York City health officials warn of the dangers.

Let Children Get Bored Again

Boredom teaches us that life isn't a parade of amusements. More important, it spawns creativity and self-sufficiency.

Girls Get Tech. They Just Need Others to Believe It.

New research explores how access to technology helps put girls on par with boys.

New Jersey Unveils New Limits on High School Football Practices

Players will be limited to 15 minutes of full-contact practice each week under new rules that state officials called the toughest in the country.

How a Ballet Dancer Brought Balance to U.C.L.A. Gymnastics

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Valorie Kondos Field, known to many as Miss Val, has created something of an oasis in a sport often characterized by intense turbulence.

At Wisconsin High School, Accusations of Body Shaming at a Cheerleading Banquet

Members of a high school cheerleading squad received awards mocking their breasts, backsides and weight, prompting complaints from parents and a warning letter from the A.C.L.U.

Dorm Fire Kills 10 Young Players in Brazil, Sending Shudder Through Soccer World

The blaze broke out in the early morning at a training center in Rio de Janeiro for teenage players at Flamengo, one of the most famous clubs.

The Helicopter Parent Descends on College Football

In the era of what some academics call “we-parenting,” is it any wonder that parents also suit up in full football uniforms for signing day?

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Arts, Media and Culture

‘The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind’ Review: Saving a Village, Using Books and Brains

Based on a true story, Chiwetel Ejiofor’s well-intentioned yet flat directing debut follows a teenage boy whose ingenuity protects his village from famine.

‘Giant Little Ones’ Review: The Turmoil of Teenage Sexuality

This open-minded drama features strong performances and characters who speak in refreshingly unadorned dialogue.

Review: One Cheer for ‘We Are the Tigers’

High schoolers, jump scares and songs are a tantalizing mix. But Preston Max Allen’s meandering show squanders a promising concept.

‘Wrestle’ Review: On the Mat, Fighting for a Future

Raw and empathetic, Suzannah Herbert and Lauren Belfer’s vérité portrait of four high-school wrestlers disdains forced uplift.

The Lustful Middle School Girl Rises

Thanks to “PEN15,” “Eighth Grade” and “Big Mouth,” the awkward, weird and sex-obsessed pubescent girl is having a moment.

Review: ‘PEN15’ Goes Crudely, Sweetly Back to School

The weird kid sister of “Broad City” and “Eighth Grade,” this Hulu comedy remembers middle school painfully well.

A Marvel Hero Copes With Bipolar Disorder

The teenage Wasp has inherited her father’s mission for justice. Like him, she must also learn to live with a mental health condition.

In a Memoir, Laurie Halse Anderson Gets Personal About Rape

Anderson's novel "Speak" broke open the silence about teenagers and sexual assault. Now "Shout" aims to help other victims find their voices.

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How the Parkland Shooting Led to a Generation's Political Awakening

In his book "Parkland," Dave Cullen follows the survivors of the massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on their quest to change gun laws and heal themselves.

In Angie Thomas's 'On the Come Up,' a Young Rapper Finds Her Way

The follow-up to "The Hate U Give" introduces a heroine whose late father was a local hip-hop legend. She has a struggling mom, a venal manager and a ton of talent.

Y.A. Thrillers That Put Teenagers to the Test

An emotionless world where feelings are a commodity. A murderer pursuing a homecoming queen. And more, in novels from Karen M. McManus, E.K. Johnston, Lamar Giles and S.E. Grove.

In This New Caper Novel, a Yearbook Reveals Family Secrets

Elinor Lipman's "Good Riddance" offers an up-to-the-minute look at a young woman's life in Manhattan.

Kids and Culture? There's So Much to Talk About

Arts writers for The New York Times share their strategies (snacks) and budget-friendly options (outdoor events) in a discussion about introducing children to the arts.

PHOTO: Demonstrators gathered in Brighton, southern England in February. Related Article (PHOTOGRAPH BY Dan Kitwood/Getty Images FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES)

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